THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) As on 31.3.96, there were 50 Cotton/Man-made fibre Textile Mills in Madhya Pradesh. Out of these, 9 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills were closed in M.P.

(b) The number of workers affected due to closure of 9 mills was 21091.

(c) Government has established Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Funds Scheme (TWRFS) to provide interim relief to the workers of permanently/partially closed mills.

(d) and (e). The matter comes under the purview of the State Government. In so far as the NTC Mils in M.P. are concerned, the NTC (MP) Ltd. stands referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). Government have prepared at rehabilitation package which envisages, inter-alia, raising of funds by sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC Mills. The BIFR is yet to take a final decision in the matter.

[English]

Rejuvenation of Tea Industry in Darjeeling

2711. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the tea planters in Darjeeling for financial help for the rejuvenation of tea industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). Darjeeling Planters Association had submitted a memorandum to the Tea Board Seeking financial support for various developmental activities to be undertaken by them. Representatives of the Association have since discussed these issues with the Chairman, Tea Board and they have been advised the submit comprehensive proposals in the matter.

Excise Duty Exemption on Coir Machinery

2712. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the state Government of Kerala for exemption coir processing machines from excise duty;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have taken any decision on the matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). A request for exempting specified Coir processing machinery from excise duty, as a support for the modernisation efforts of the Coir industry is under consideration of the Government.

Automotive Plant in A.P.

2713. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted any project to Union Government to set up Automotive Plant in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Capital Investment in Heavy Industries

2714. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major portion of the capital invested in the heavy Industries of the country is in the form of foreign debt;

(b) if so, the total investment made in the heavy industries till March, 1996 and the capital amount received in the form of debt from domestic and foreign sources, respectively;

(c) whether several industries among the existing heavy industries have already become sick;

(d) if so, the number thereof; and

(e) the total investment made in these sick industrial units till March, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Heavy industries are set up both in the public and private sectors. Information regarding investment made in heavy industries is not maintained centrally. However, data on industrial investment intentions recorded from 1991-92 (since liberalisation in August, 1991) till 1995-96 (April-March) pertaining to non-small scale units in the organised sector is given below:-

	Proposed Investment
Letter of Intents (LOIs)	Rs. 66,537 crores
Industrial Entrepreneurs' Memoranda (IEMs)	Rs. 4,91,410 crores
Total	Rs.5,57,947 crores